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I ALREADY GOT A RADIO REPORT FROM THE SKRULL SLAVE SHIP ABOUT 'IM...
HE'S THE STRONGEST ONE THEY COULD FIND IN THE SOL GALAXY!
BUT IS HE STRONG ENUFF TO BEAT LIPPY LOUIE'S FIGHTER?
LOUIE SAYS HE'LL KILL YOUR BOY BEFORE A SKRULL CAN SNEEZE!
THAT'S RIGHT, PUNK! AS SOON AS YOUR FIGHTER DIES, MY BOYS 'N ME TAKE OVER THIS TERRITORY!
IT'S LOUIE!
KEEP YER SHIRTS ON, YOU GUYS!
I JUST WANTED TO MAKE SURE OF SOMETHIN'!
YEAH! SO DON'T NOBODY GO FOR THEIR RODS!
IS IT TRUE THAT YER WILLIN' TO PAY TEN PERFECT POWER STONES FER A FIGHTER NAMED BEN GRIMM?
YOU BET YER FEDORA IT'S TRUE, LOUIE!
ON EARTH, THEY ALSO CALL 'IM... THE THING!
MAYBE YA HEARD OF THAT NAME SOME TIME, HUH?
I DON'T CARE WHAT HIS MONIKER IS! MY FIGHTER'LL TAKE 'IM!
YOU'RE JUST THROWIN' OUT THEM PRECIOUS POWER STONES!
YEAH? SEZ YOU!
OKAY, WISE GUY... I'M GONNA SHOW YOU SOMETHIN'...

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

BASEBALL FANS ARE CRAZY

about this true-to-life BASEBALL GAME

• PITCHING • HITTING • FIELDING • RUNNING • MANAGING

Easy to play, real thrilling, exciting baseball with STRAT-O-MATIC. 400 big league players perform according to their actual abilities and your managerial decisions.

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If you like baseball, you'll love to play STRAT-O-MATIC

Get the entire story. Mail coupon for a colorful FREE BROCHURE containing complete information and FREE SAMPLES today! Offer limited. Don't delay. Write today while supply lasts!

FANS RAVE Here are just a few of the hundreds of letters we receive every week, from baseball fans aged 8 to 80, from coast to coast!

STRAT-O-MATIC BASEBALL is the best baseball game I ever have had. Kids swamp over the back porch to play this game! Boy, it is a lot of fun! Thank you for making such a wonderful game. *—P. C., Attleboro, Mass.*

Just like real baseball. It is fun to play. *—G. V., Cincinnati, O.*

As close to realism as one can get and therefore far more superior to other competing baseball games. *—F. T., Manila, P.I.*

Although it's fantastically realistic, it's also very simple to play. *–A. F., Los Angeles, Calif.*

I'm one hundred percent satisfied with it. The game provides hours of fun for me and my friends. It's very realistic, and true to life. *—C. H., Lanett, Ala.*

The best baseball game. It is realistic and yet not too difficult to play. *—P. M., Port Huron, Mich.*

Thank you for creating such an exciting yet realistic game and putting a shine to what might have been a boring summer. *—N. S., Los Angeles, Calif.*

Boys are waiting in line to play the game! *—A. H., Chicago, Ill.*

It has given me more pleasure than any other game. *—S. E., Rossville, Ind.*

The most exciting and fun game ever. *—L.S., Boston, Mass.*

It is so stupendous, words can't explain. *—J. R., Brooklyn, N. Y.*

Best on the market. *—J. E., Miami, Fla.*

Has given me more enjoyment than I have ever had from any one thing in my entire life. It's worth its weight in gold. As I love baseball, this game gives me something enjoyable to do during the off seasons as well as during the season. *—S. C., Temple City, Calif.*

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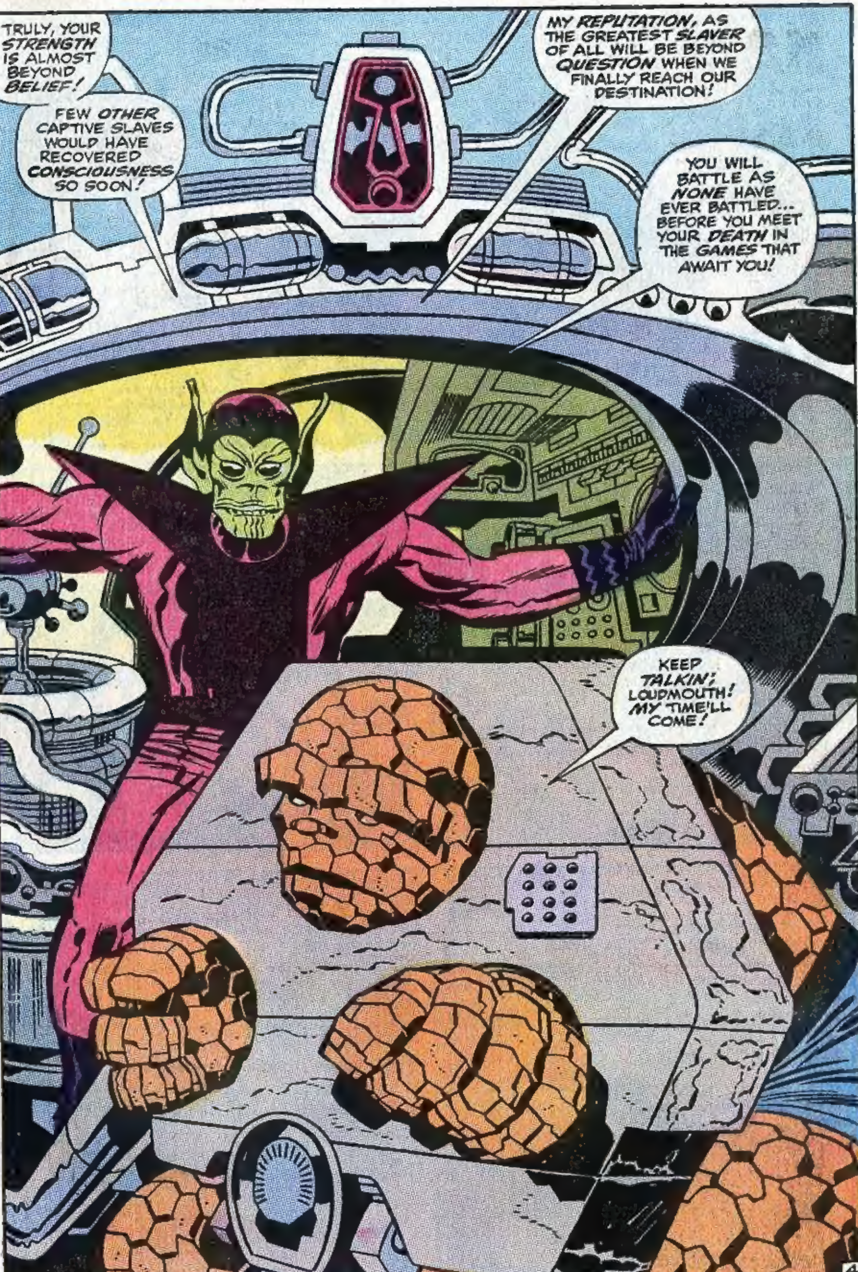
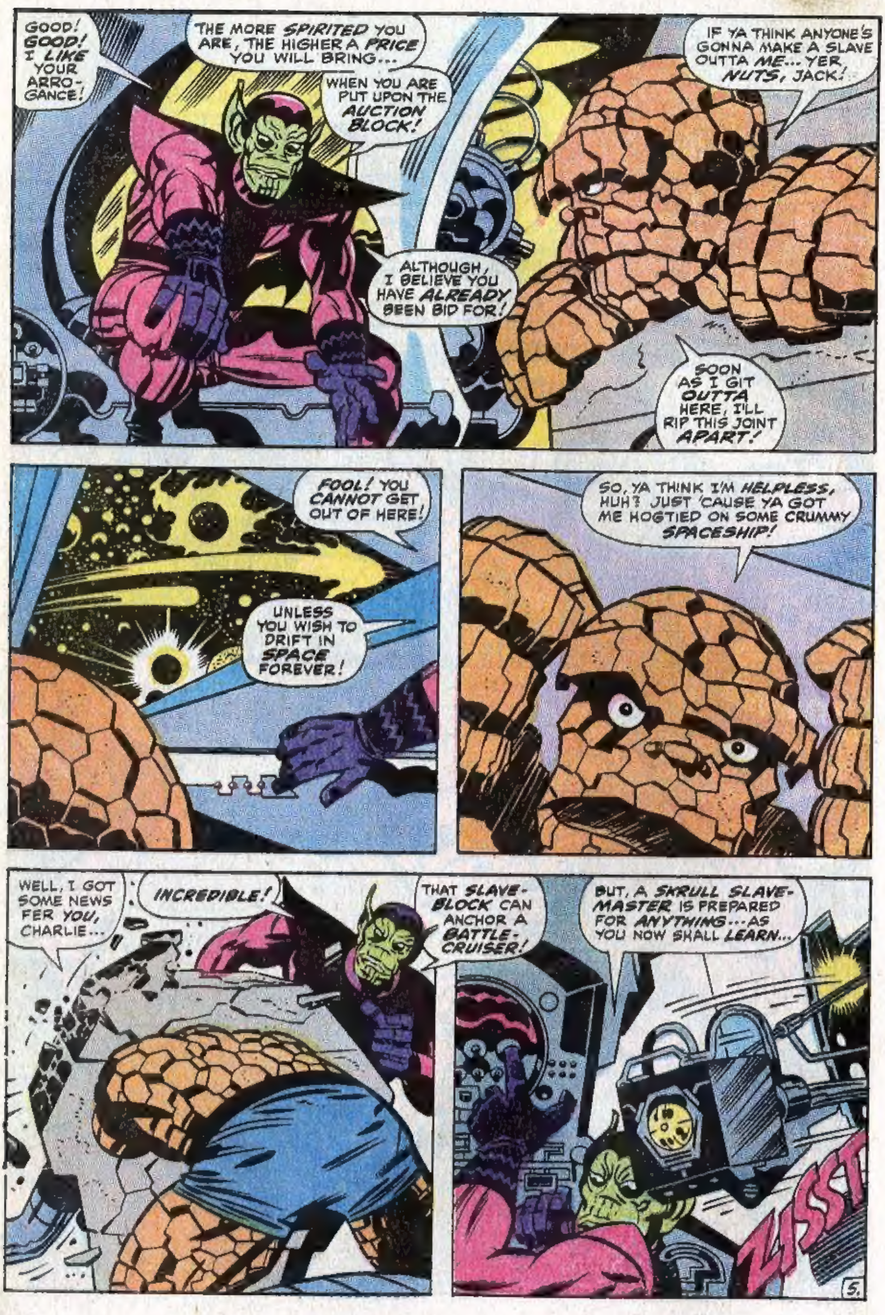
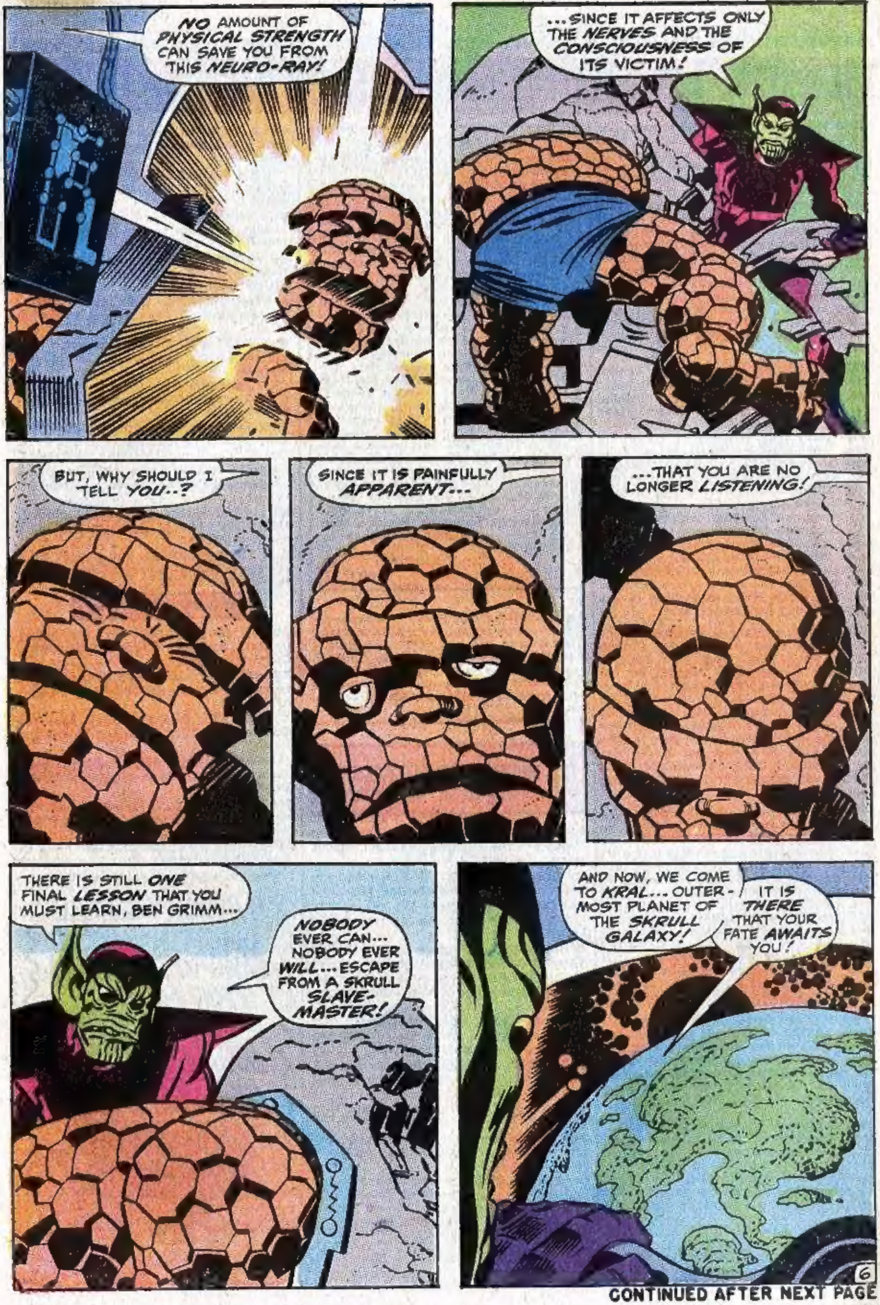

TRULY, YOUR STRENGTH IS ALMOST BEYOND BELIEF!
FEW OTHER CAPTIVE SLAVES WOULD HAVE RECOVERED CONSCIOUSNESS SO SOON!
MY REPUTATION, AS THE GREATEST SLAVER OF ALL WILL BE BEYOND QUESTION WHEN WE FINALLY REACH OUR DESTINATION!
YOU WILL BATTLE AS NONE HAVE EVER BATTLED... BEFORE YOU MEET YOUR DEATH IN THE GAMES THAT AWAIT YOU!
KEEP TALKIN', LOUDMOUTH! MY TIME'LL COME!
4


GOOD! GOOD! I LIKE YOUR ARROGANCE!
THE MORE SPIRITED YOU ARE, THE HIGHER A PRICE YOU WILL BRING...
WHEN YOU ARE PUT UPON THE AUCTION BLOCK!
IF YA THINK ANYONE'S GONNA MAKE A SLAVE OUTTA ME... YER NUTS, JACK!
ALTHOUGH, I BELIEVE YOU HAVE ALREADY BEEN BID FOR!
SOON AS I GIT OUTTA HERE, I'LL RIP THIS JOINT APART!
FOOL! YOU CANNOT GET OUT OF HERE!
UNLESS YOU WISH TO DRIFT IN SPACE FOREVER!
SO, YA THINK I'M HELPLESS, HUH? JUST 'CAUSE YA GOT ME HOGTIED ON SOME CRUMMY SPACESHIP!
WELL, I GOT SOME NEWS FER YOU, CHARLIE...
INCREDIBLE!
THAT SLAVE-BLOCK CAN ANCHOR A BATTLE-CRUISER!
BUT, A SKRULL SLAVE-MASTER IS PREPARED FOR ANYTHING... AS YOU NOW SHALL LEARN...
ZISST!
5.



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THE LATEST AND GREATEST GOODIES FROM MANIACAL MARVEL!

ITEM: Here's big news for all members of the good ol' Merry Marvel Marching Society, and for those of you who intend to join. Remember years ago, when we started the MMMS? We promised we wouldn't just swear you in and forget about you. Then what happened? We forgot about you! Naw, we didn't really — but what DID happen is — our mags became so much more popular than we ever dreamed they would, and we became so much busier than we ever expected to, that we just never had the time to do all the things we had hoped to do with our swingin' little club. But, we've managed to change all that now! And the change is so important, that we're gonna give it a paragraph all to itself — just like this —

ITEM: We had the greatest stroke of luck the other day. We met a fanatical Marvelite who also happens to be a most talented California executive. He's so impressed with our mags, and our club membership roster, that he made us a fantastic offer, which we've just accepted. From now on, the MMMS will be incorporated into a fabulous parent organization named MARVELMANIA INTERNATIONAL! Because of this great new development, there'll be an entire new company, independent of your Bullpen, working around the clock to make your club exactly what you want it to be. So watch for the exciting announcements about Marvelmania International in our mags, and remember — you won't be watching alone. We're as anxious to see what's coming next as you are!

ITEM! Guess who's just returned to the fold? None other than ol' GIL (Sugar) KANE, who's teamed up with Rascally ROY and Dapper DAN ADKINS on the greatest CAPTAIN MARVEL epic of all time! (Well, since yesterday, anyway). You'll be thrilling to a brand-new Mar-Vell starting this month, and you'll have only yourself to blame if you miss it. Not only is Gil's artistry a joy to behold, but it just happens to feature CAPTAIN AMERICA, RICK JONES, and more surprises than you can count. We kid thee not!

ITEM: Speaking of awesome artistry, let's welcome Slammin' SAMMY GRAINGER to the hallowed halls of Marvel. You've already applauded his inimitable inking on various X-MEN and SHIELD strips, but starting now, he's lending his talents to the power-packed pencilling of Our Pal SAL BUSCEMA to carry the mighty AVENGERS to even greater pinnacles of glory! And if you wonder how we'll manage it, what with Sal living in Virginia and the Slammer nestled 'way down in North Carolina, we can only say — it won't be easy! (Don't be surprised if you hear 'em shout "Avengers Assemble, y'all" from now on!)

ITEM! Hey, did we tell you about Adorable ARTIE SIMEK? Or, perhaps you've already caught him on the nighttime Alan Burke show, where (cross our heart!) he played the harmonica and spoons! Sly ol' STAN can't wait to ask him how the heck he manages to tune his spoon!

ITEM: Suddenly, the fabulous FANTASTIC FOUR have become the talk of Marveldom! First, everyone flipped over the way we playfully parodied the theme of TV's "The Prisoner" some months back — and now, the FF's adventures on the planet of the Skrulls — with overtones of every vintage gangster movie you've ever seen—are knocking fandom out of its collective tree! Take a bow, LEE and KIRBY — we don't know how you do it — 'specially considering the fact that your Galactus episode in the current THOR is probably the absolute high point in imaginative illustrated fantasy!

STAN'S SOAPBOX

This is it, gang! An announcement so momentous that it's taken us months to get up the nerve to make it! Starting as soon as possible, we're abandoning our policy of continued stories! Yep, than means we'll try to make every Marvel masterwork complete in each issue! Our mail has been running 50-50 for and against, and since we personally preferred the continued yarns, we kept them going. But, we finally decided that the other 50% of Marveldom should have equal rights, and it's always exciting to make a change. It's gonna make our job much tougher — we'll have to shorten our plots — perhaps tone down on our sub-plots, and tighten our pacing. But it's the least we can do for our rollickin' readers, and it'll be fun to see how it works out. A few current tales may take another ish or two to wrap up, and occasionally we may HAVE to present a two-parter — but, by and large, we've given up our continued stories till further notice! Now for the love of Odin, write as soon as you can and tell us how you feel about it. If we're making another bonehead mistake, next month's column may be written by Irving Forbush!

Excelsior!

Smiley

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

Marvel-ous Mags On Sale Right Now!

CHAMBER OF DARKNESS #1: Hang on! These are the strangest, scariest, spookiest stories yet!

SILVER SURFER #8: The Surfer actually battles a ghost! Guest-starring Mephisto!

FANTASTIC FOUR #91: See the mighty Thing, enslaved on the planet of the Skrulls!

SPIDER-MAN #77: Spidey and the Human Torch in action together — plus the Lizard!

AVENGERS #68: Our awesome assemblers take on Ultron-6 — while the whole world gasps!

AVENGERS KING-SIZE SPECIAL #3: The immortal saga in which Cap joined the team — plus more, more, MORE!

THOR #168: The mighty Thunder God and gigantic Galactus — face to face at last!

CAPTAIN AMERICA #118: The Falcon fights his first battle — side by side with Cap!

X-MEN #60: The name of our macabre villain is Lykos — and boy, has he got a secret!

DAREDEVIL #56: A masterpiece of mood and mystery, as DD meets the creature called — Death's-Head!

HULK #120: The green-skinned giant takes on the U.S. army — with Maximus at his back!

HULK KING-SIZE SPECIAL #2: Hulk's origin retold! Plus, his first encounter with — the Leader!

IRON MAN #18: It's new vs. old — as Shellhead fights to the death with — himself!

SUB-MARINER #18: Namor and Triton — together again — against the sinister Stalker from space!

CAPTAIN MARVEL #17: Guest-starring Captain America! The most shocking saga of all!

SGT. FURY #70: Blazing into action with the Howlers — here come the Missouri Marauders!

CAPT. SAVAGE #16: "War Is Hell . . . on Ice!" The Raiders—as you've never seen them before!

MARVEL'S GREATEST COMICS #23 (Formerly Collector's Item Classics): The F.F.—Doc Strange — and Iron Man! 'Nuff said!

RAWHIDE KID #72: The Kid fights alone — against the blazing six-guns of Mystery Valley!

MILLIE THE MODEL #175: CHILI #6: and **MAD ABOUT MILLIE #3:** Gals, gags, and goofy goings-on!

OUR LOVE STORY #1: There won't be a dry eye in town! If you're a lover, baby — here's where it's at!

AND, STILL ON SALE—

TOWER OF SHADOWS #1: Maddening mystery by Lee, Steranko, Buscema, Craig! Like wow!

DR. STRANGE #182: The master of magic faces Nightmare — Eternity — and Juggernaut!

SHIELD #14: Nick Fury must face the combined might of Hydra and Shield! But how?

MARVEL SUPER-HEROES #22: A complete Lee-Kirby X-Men, plus a full-length Daredevil!

MARVEL TALES #22: Spider-Man vs. the Green Goblin! Not to mention Thor — and the Torch!

MY LOVE #1: For everyone who loves to look at groovy chicks — and who doesn't?

WATCH FOR THE EXCITING *NEW* SURPRISES FROM *THE HOUSE OF IDEAS, AS* MIGHTY MARVEL MOVES AHEAD!

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Print clearly
ADDRESS
CITY
STATE
ZIP

BUT, WHAT OF THE OTHER MEMBERS OF OUR WORLD-FAMOUS TEAM? LET'S FIND OUT...
EVEN THE POLICE CAN'T FIND A TRACE OF HIM, ALICIA!
BUT... WHY WOULD HE LEAVE US... WITHOUT A WORD?
DON'T WORRY, LADY!
BIG BEN IS ONE GUY WHO CAN TAKE CARE OF HIMSELF!
IT'S AS THOUGH BEN HAS VANISHED FROM THE FACE OF THE EARTH!
BUT...HE HAS SO MANY ENEMIES... SO MANY DEADLY FOES!
I FOUND A TAXI-DRIVER... WHO SAID HE HAD DRIVEN HIM TO THE WOODS ...WITH ANOTHER MAN..*
*EXACTLY AS WE SAW LAST ISH...RIGHT? ...STAN.
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING BOTHERING ME, THOUGH...
THE CABBIE SAID... I WAS THAT MAN WITH BEN!
THAT MEANS.. IF IT WAS A TRAP .
...THEN BEN WAS LURED INTO IT... BY SOMEONE IMPERSONATING ME!
BUT WHO? HOW?
FLAME ON!
I'M GONNA SEE WHAT I CAN FIND OUT!
IF BASHFUL BENJY IS ANYWHERE IN THE CITY, I'LL TRACK HIM DOWN SOMEHOW!
OR, IF ANYTHING'S HAPPENED TO HIM...
BUT I DON'T WANNA THINK ABOUT THAT!
7

PERHAPS IT'S JUST AS WELL THAT THE TORCH ISN'T AWARE OF HIS HAPLESS PARTNER'S FATE JUST YET! FOR, LIKE OURSELVES... WHAT COULD HE DO ABOUT IT... SO MANY GALAXIES AWAY?
I DON'T GET IT! IT'S LIKE I TRAVELLED BACK IN TIME!
'CEPTIN' FOR THEM BLASTED SKRULLS, EVERYTHING LOOKS LIKE THE USA...DURIN' PROHIBITION!
I ALMOST EXPECT TA SEE BONNIE 'N CLYDE CRAWLIN' OUTTA THE WOOD-WORK!
THEY OUGHT TO FETCH YOU A GOOD PRICE, SLAVE MASTER!
ESPECIALLY THE ONE CALLED... THING!
I MIGHT AS WELL GO ALONG WITH 'EM FER A WHILE... TILL I SEE WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT!
ANYWAY, DON'T LOOK LIKE I GOT MUCH CHOICE... WHILE THEY GOT ALL THEM BLASTED NERVE RAY GIZMOS!
HEY! WHAT A BUNCH OF WEAK LOOKING SLAVEYS!
THEY COULDN'T PUNCH THEIR WAY OUT OF A SATURNIAN FOG FIELD!
C'MON! LET'S SEE IF THEY'VE GOT ANY LIFE TO 'EM!
8

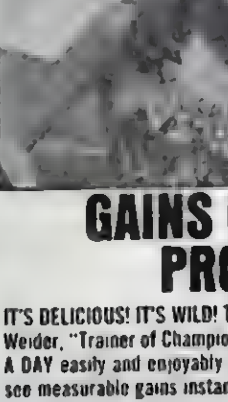
CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

Tired of Being 'SKINNY'?

DRINK ON POUNDS OF WEIGHT FAST—THE FUN WAY!

GAINS OF UP TO A·POUND·A·DAY PROVEN BY THOUSANDS

IT'S DELICIOUS! IT'S WILD! The new taste-sensation "CRASH-WEIGHT GAINING PLAN" developed by Joe Weider, "Trainer of Champions", "Architect of Beauty" helps you drink on pounds... UP TO A POUND A DAY easily and enjoyably while you rest... relax... watch TV... sleep. Men, women and children... see measurable gains instantly and say goodbye to your skinny, undesirable string-bean body... NOW!



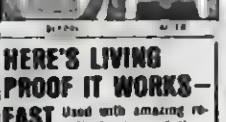
GAINS 18 LBS. IN 14 DAYS!

The "before" photo [illegible] Crash Weight Plan and [illegible] Crash Weight Formula #7 [illegible] 18 pounds in two months!

SHOULDN'T THIS HAPPEN TO YOU?

HERE'S LIVING PROOF IT WORKS—FAST

Used with amazing results by tens of thousands of men, women and children for more than 7 years! Now, you too can take this guaranteed way to build up your caloric intake for fast and substantial weight gains!



GAINS 14 LBS. IN 14 DAYS!

James Parker of Ft. Worth, Texas writes: "It's Fantastic—I went from 158 to 172 pounds in 14 days. Gained 14 pounds in 14 days and added 2 inches to my chest. I'm more than satisfied!"

SHOULDN'T THIS HAPPEN TO YOU?

DO-IT-YOUR-SELF GAIN-A-POUND A-DAY KIT!

This is a 1 day supply of Crash-Weight, chock full of weight-gaining nutrients that can smash the weight-gaining barrier!

You want to gain a pound a day? Half a pound a day? Maybe you just want to add a few pounds here and there? You want it easily [illegible] without stuffing yourself and counting calories?

NOW YOU CAN

It's simply wild... AND IT WORKS!

[illegible]

No more bloating yourself with rich, heavy foods to force-feed calories into your system. Drink 4 delicious glasses of natural-organic Crash Weight Formula #7 daily in addition to your regular meals. Follow Crash Weight Plan as directed in the free booklet and you can drink on [illegible] up to 1500 calories along with your regular calorie intake. Then take it easy [illegible] while you relax, snooze or watch TV. [illegible] weight-training drink and the Formula #7 Plan does all the work, piling on weight for you.

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE COUPON

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[illegible]
Union City, N. J. 07087

Dear Joe:
I want to join the WEIGHT GAINABLES. Enclosed find $ ____ for your Crash Weight Formula #7 Plan which I have checked below. I understand your Money Back guarantee applies only if I order my Plan through this coupon!
Check one of the Plans below:

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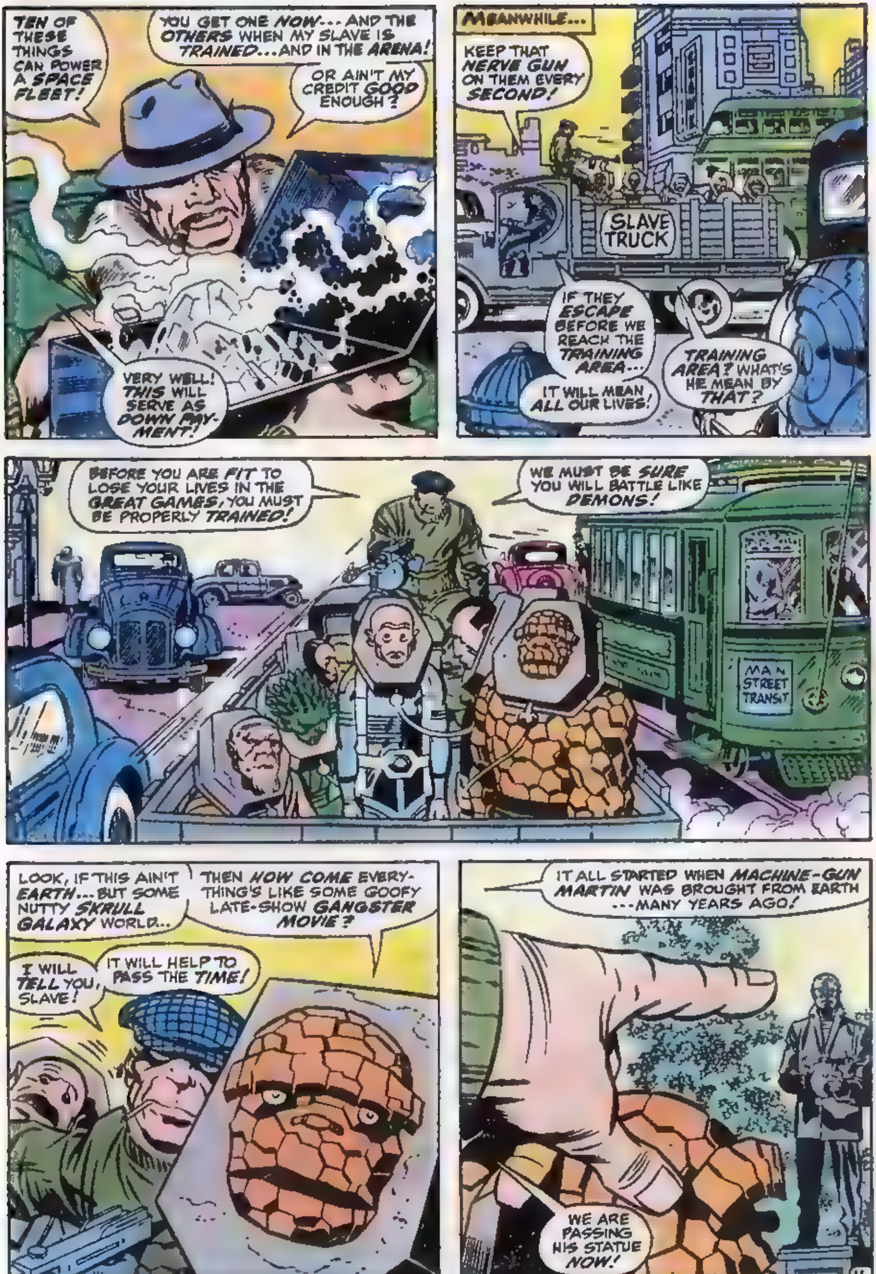
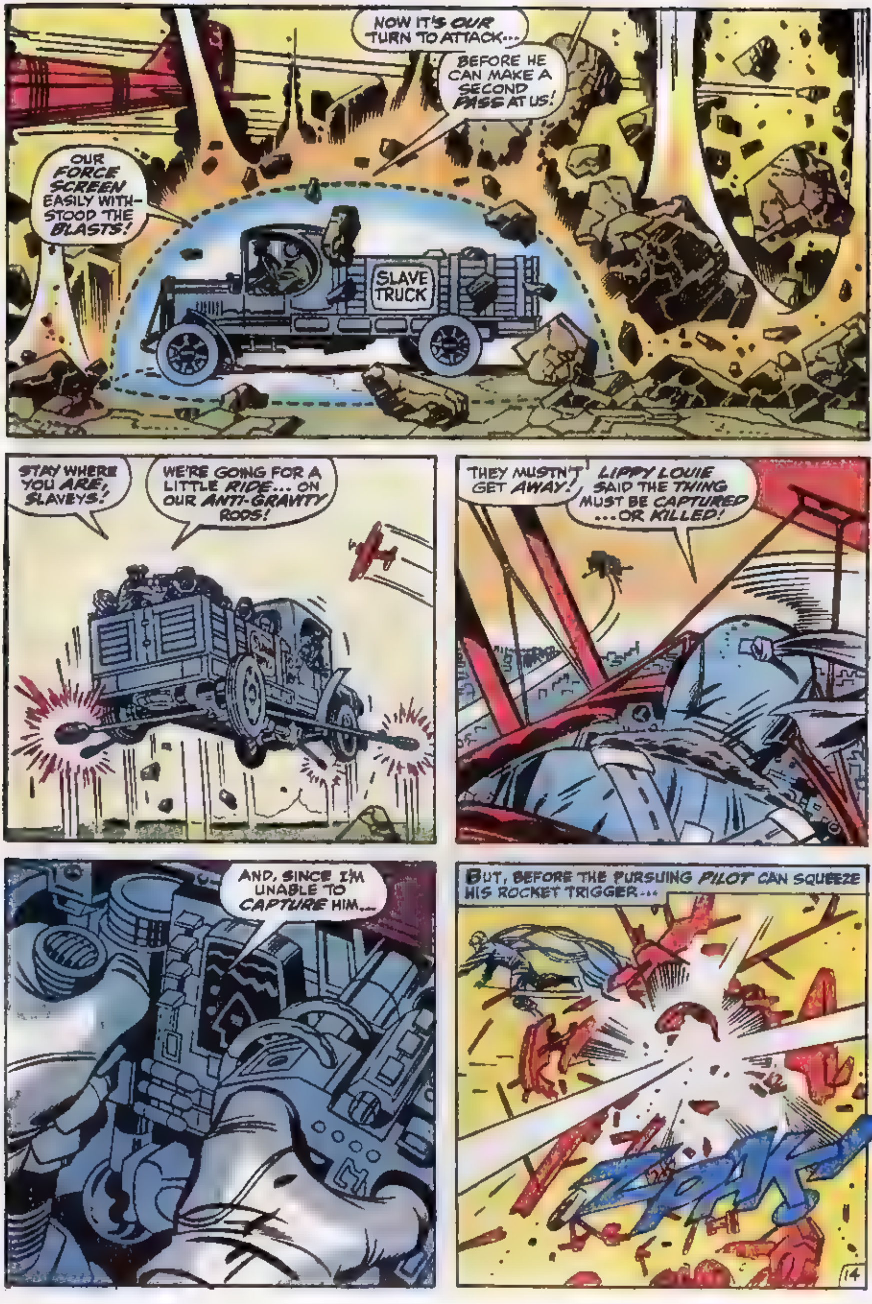
IT'S NEW! IT'S [illegible] JOIN THE WEIGHT GAINABLES! DRINK ON POUNDS—FAST! SAFELY!

YOU WERE RIGHT, SLAVE MASTER! THERE IS A LOT OF LIFE IN THAT ONE!
HE WILL BRING US THE HIGHEST PRICE OF ALL!
BOSS BARKER HAS ALREADY BID TEN PERFECT POWER STONES FOR HIM!
SO PAY ME MY FEE, MAN OF KRAL!
I HAVE OTHER WORLDS TO VISIT!
PATIENCE, SLAVER... PATIENCE! LET US AWAIT THE ARRIVAL OF BOSS BARKER!
SECONDS LATER...
I SAW THAT! IF YOU DAMAGED MY NEW FIGHTING SLAVE..!!
DON'T WORRY, BARKER... HE IS JUST STUNNED!
REMEMBER, I'M PAYING TOP PRICE FOR HIM!
HE MUST DIE IN THE GAMES... NOWHERE ELSE!
SPEAKING OF THE PRICE, I HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR MY POWER STONES!
I MUST HAVE THEM... IN ORDER TO PAY THE SKRULL SLAVER!
WAIT! THERE ARE NOT TEN STONES IN THIS BOX!
YOU'RE TELLIN' ME? GIVE IT TO HIM, WHITEY!
BUT THE PRICE WAS TEN PERFECT POWER STONES!
10

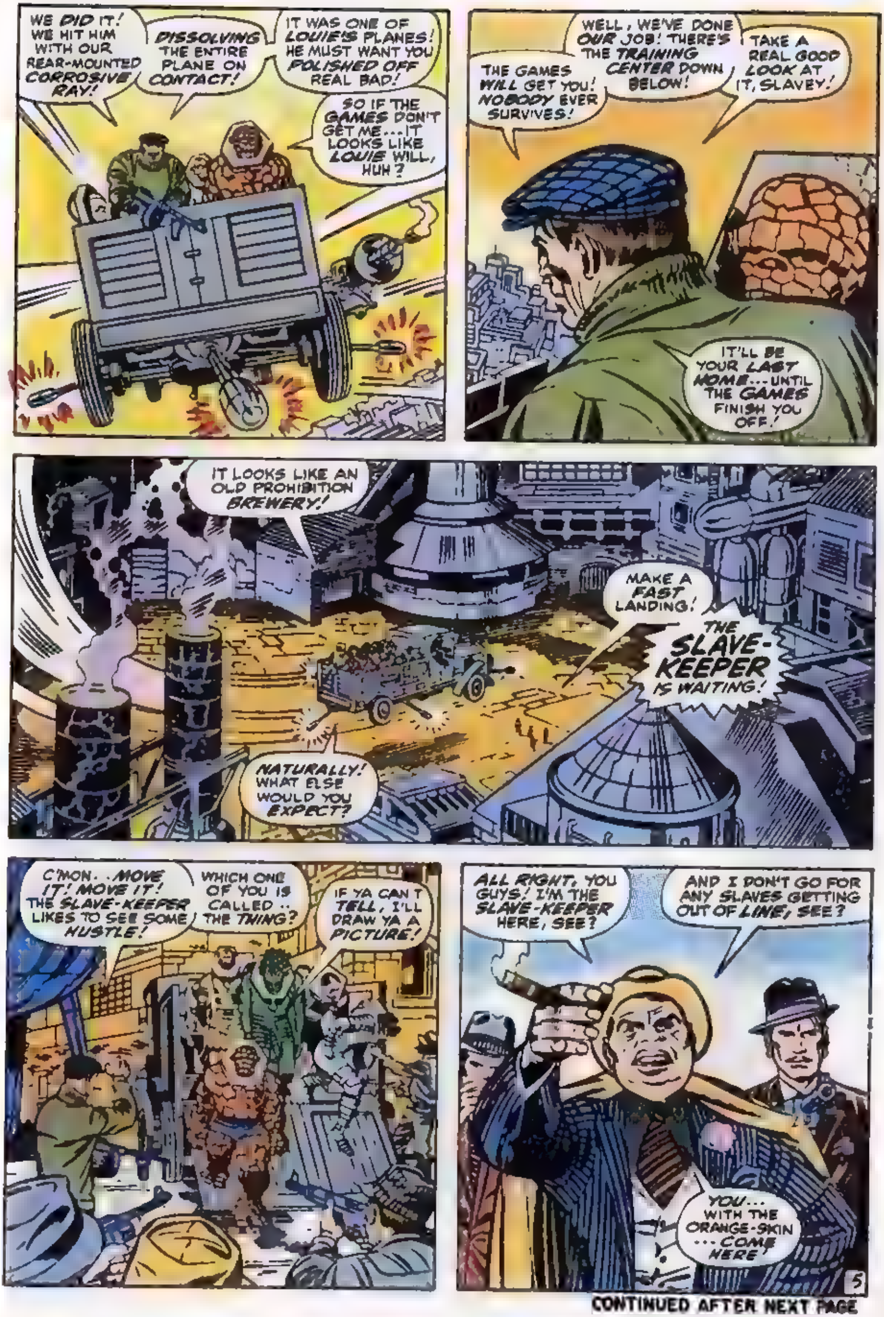

TEN OF THESE THINGS CAN POWER A SPACE FLEET!
YOU GET ONE NOW... AND THE OTHERS WHEN MY SLAVE IS TRAINED...AND IN THE ARENA!
OR AIN'T MY CREDIT GOOD ENOUGH?
VERY WELL! THIS WILL SERVE AS DOWN PAY-MENT!
MEANWHILE...
KEEP THAT NERVE GUN ON THEM EVERY SECOND!
SLAVE TRUCK
IF THEY ESCAPE BEFORE WE REACH THE TRAINING AREA...
IT WILL MEAN ALL OUR LIVES!
TRAINING AREA? WHAT'S HE MEAN BY THAT?
BEFORE YOU ARE FIT TO LOSE YOUR LIVES IN THE GREAT GAMES, YOU MUST BE PROPERLY TRAINED!
WE MUST BE SURE YOU WILL BATTLE LIKE DEMONS!
MAIN STREET TRANSIT
LOOK, IF THIS AIN'T EARTH... BUT SOME NUTTY SKRULL GALAXY WORLD...
THEN HOW COME EVERY-THING'S LIKE SOME GOOFY LATE-SHOW GANGSTER MOVIE?
I WILL TELL YOU, SLAVE!
IT WILL HELP TO PASS THE TIME!
IT ALL STARTED WHEN MACHINE-GUN MARTIN WAS BROUGHT FROM EARTH ...MANY YEARS AGO!
WE ARE PASSING HIS STATUE NOW!
11.

MARTIN WAS A KILLER WHO BROKE OUT OF PRISON...
...IN THE 1930'S... ON YOUR PLANET EARTH!
STATE PRISON
"UNDER COVER OF DARKNESS, HE MANAGED TO ELUDE THE PURSUING GUARDS..."
"... JUST LONG ENOUGH FOR THE FIRST OF OUR SKRULL SLAVE SHIPS TO FIND HIM!"
"THE WITLESS HUMAN THOUGHT HE HAD DIS-COVERED AN ESCAPE VEHICLE.."
"BUT, HE WAS SOON TO LEARN DIFFERENT..."
"OUR SLAVER HAD BEEN BUSY PHOTOGRAPHING LIFE UPON YOUR UN-SUSPECTING PLANET."
"BUT NOW, HE HAD A LIVING SPECIMEN OF HIS OWN TO TAKE AS A PRIZE!"

BUT, THE PEOPLE OF KRAL WERE FASCINATED BY THE FILMS ---AND BY THE GANGSTER HIMSELF!
BEFORE LONG, THE ENTIRE PLANET BEGAN TO COPY THE STYLES, THE MANNERS, AND THE PRIMITIVE SPEECH OF YOUR OWN GANGSTER ERA!
YEAH? THAT'S VERRRRY INTERESTIN'!
BUT WHO'S THE NUTTY RED BARON CHUGGIN' UP THERE AFTER YA?
A SLAVE-STEALER SHIP!
ACTIVATE ALL DEFENSES!
DON'T WORRY... WE'LL HANDLE HIM!
LOOK OUT! HE'S FIRING A NEUTRALIZER CANNON!
SHOOSH!
HE'S RIPPING UP THE ROAD!
IF WE DON'T STOP 'IM...HE'LL NARROW THE RANGE... BLAST US INTO NOTHING-NESS!
13



NOW IT'S OUR TURN TO ATTACK...
BEFORE HE CAN MAKE A SECOND PASS AT US!
OUR FORCE SCREEN EASILY WITHSTOOD THE BLASTS!
SLAVE TRUCK
STAY WHERE YOU ARE, SLAVEYS!
WE'RE GOING FOR A LITTLE RIDE... ON OUR ANTI-GRAVITY RODS!
THEY MUSTN'T GET AWAY!
LIPPY LOUIE SAID THE THING MUST BE CAPTURED ...OR KILLED!
AND, SINCE I'M UNABLE TO CAPTURE HIM...
BUT, BEFORE THE PURSUING PILOT CAN SQUEEZE HIS ROCKET TRIGGER...
14



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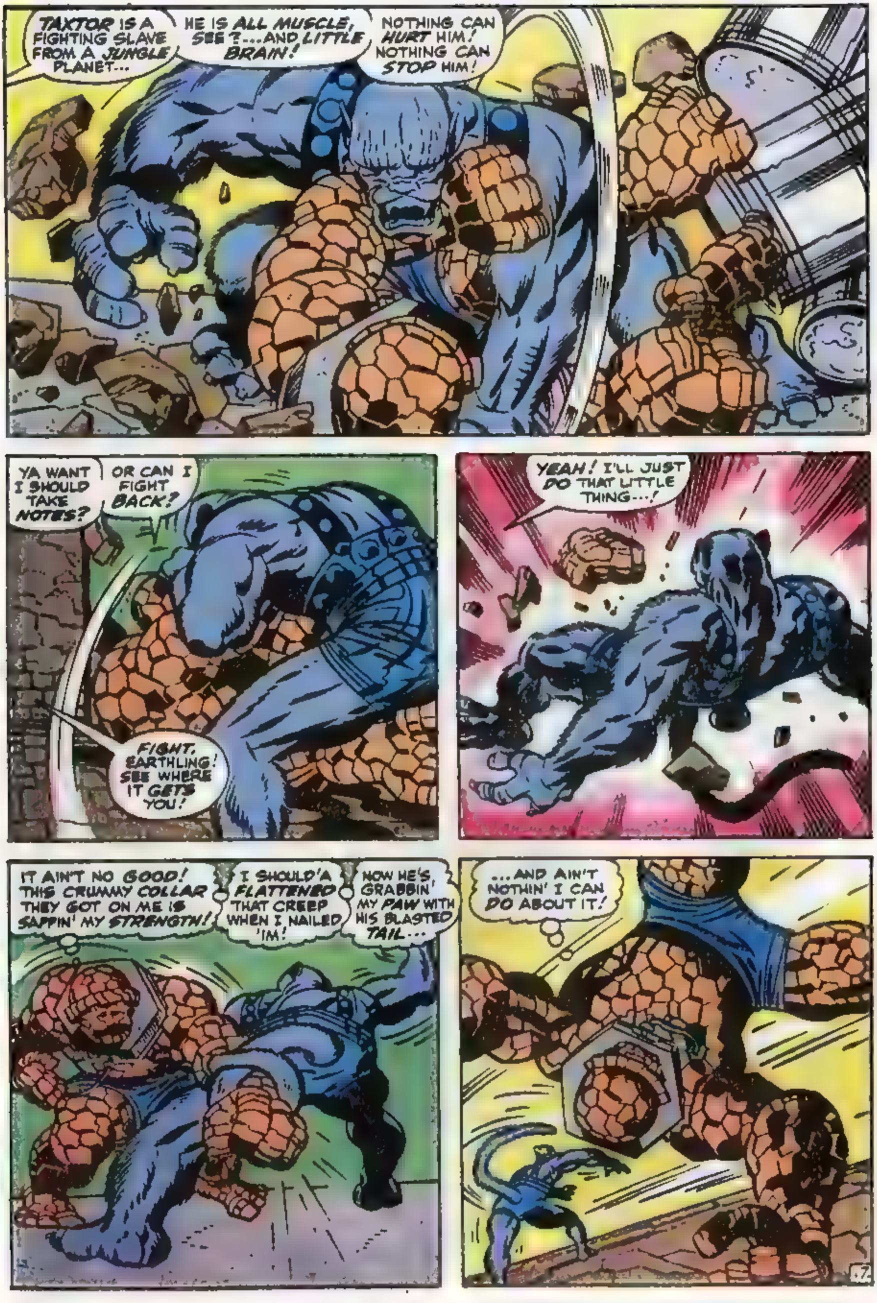
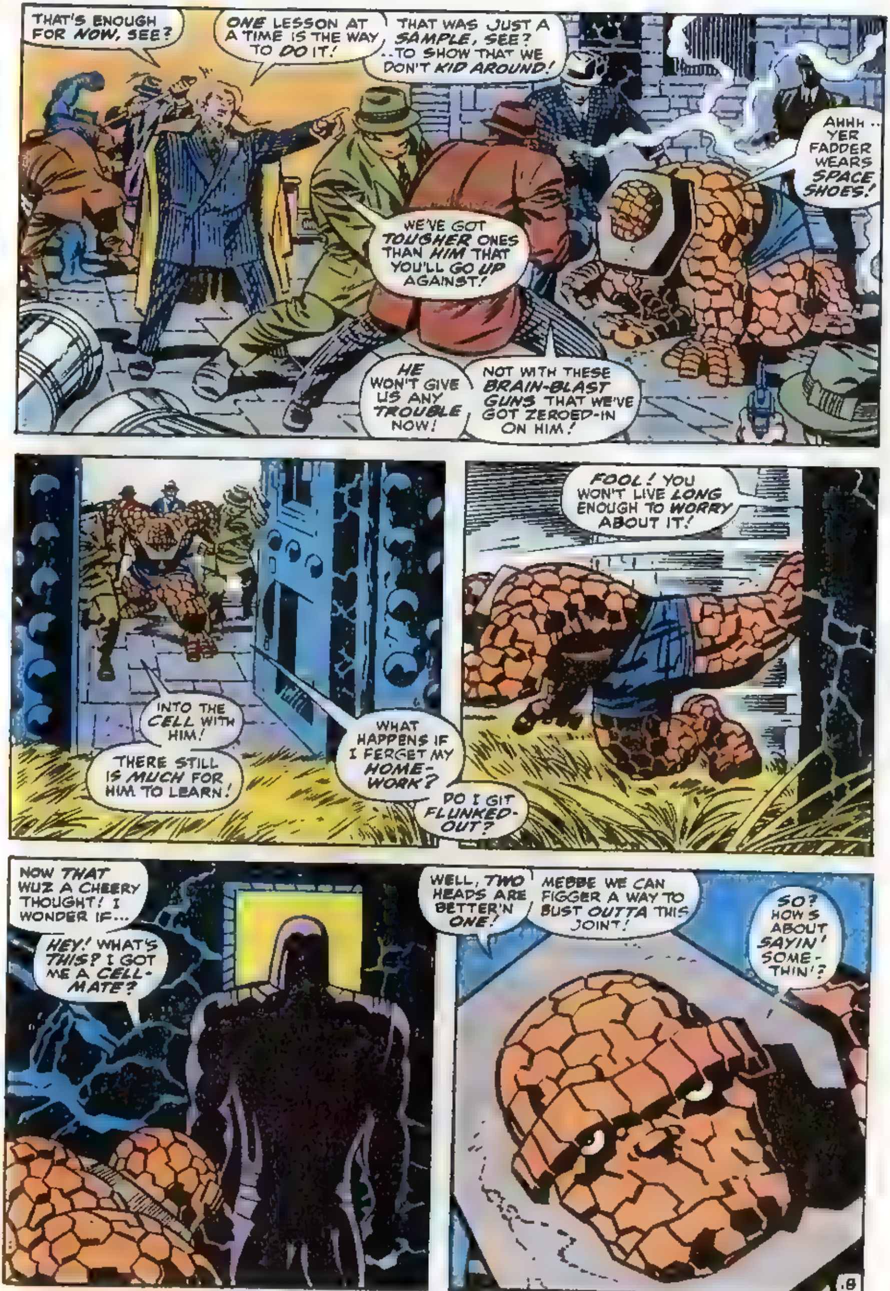
THIS IS NOTHIN'! YA SHOULD SEE ME DUELLIN' WIT' MY KNITTIN' NEEDLES!
SO YOU'RE A WISE-GUY, ARE YOU?
HEY! NOW THERE'S A DANDY LINE! HOW COME YA AIN'T TRIED 23-SKIDOOO?
YOU'RE A REAL CUT-UP, BIG BOY!
BUT NOBODY LIKES A SMART-MOUTH SLAVE!
I DIDN'T FIGGER TA WIN NO POPULARITY CONTESTS IN THIS DUMP!
YOUR DAYS OF WINNING ARE OVER!
FROM NOW ON ...IT'LL BE ALL DOWNHILL!
TWEEEE
SINCE YOU'RE AT A TRAINING CENTER...
THIS IS YOUR FIRST LESSON!
TAKE HIM, TAXTOR!
16


TAXTOR IS A FIGHTING SLAVE FROM A JUNGLE PLANET...
HE IS ALL MUSCLE, SEE ?...AND LITTLE BRAIN!
NOTHING CAN HURT HIM! NOTHING CAN STOP HIM!
YA WANT I SHOULD TAKE NOTES?
OR CAN I FIGHT BACK?
FIGHT, EARTHLING! SEE WHERE IT GETS YOU!
YEAH! I'LL JUST DO THAT LITTLE THING...!
IT AIN'T NO GOOD! THIS CRUMMY COLLAR THEY GOT ON ME IS SAPPIN' MY STRENGTH!
I SHOULD'A FLATTENED THAT CREEP WHEN I NAILED 'IM!
NOW HE'S GRABBIN' MY PAW WITH HIS BLASTED TAIL...
...AND AIN'T NOTHIN' I CAN DO ABOUT IT!
7



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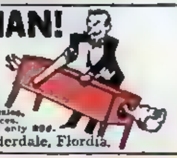

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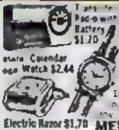

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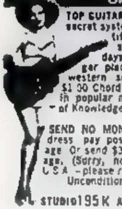

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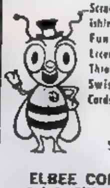

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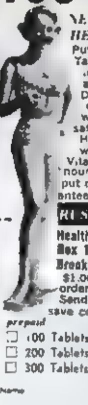

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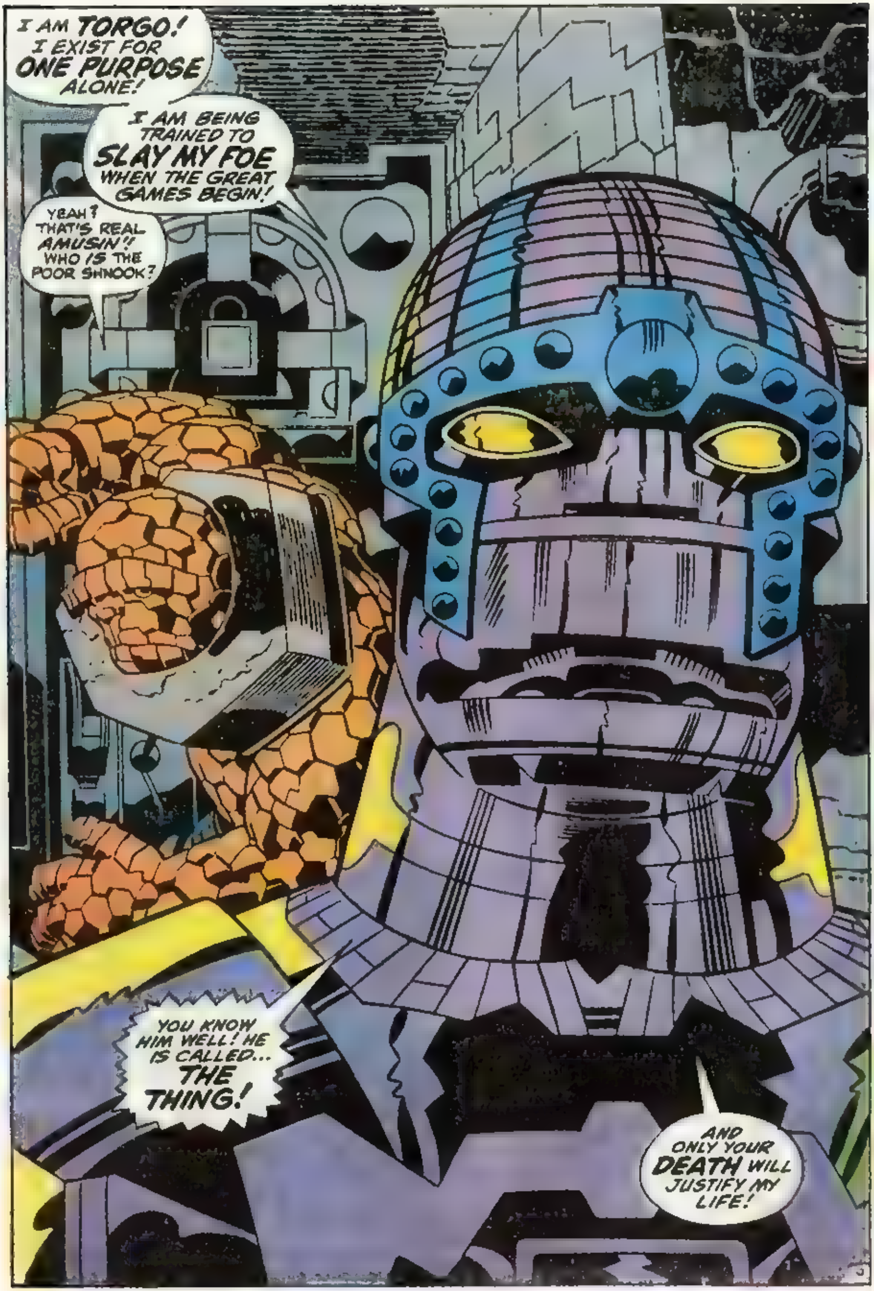
I AM TORGO! I EXIST FOR ONE PURPOSE ALONE!
I AM BEING TRAINED TO SLAY MY FOE WHEN THE GREAT GAMES BEGIN!
YEAH? THAT'S REAL AMUSIN'! WHO IS THE POOR SHNOOK?
YOU KNOW HIM WELL! HE IS CALLED... THE THING!
AND ONLY YOUR DEATH WILL JUSTIFY MY LIFE!

WHILE, IN ANOTHER PART OF THE ENDLESS COSMOS, WE FIND...
IT'S HOPELESS! NOT A SIGN OF BEN ANYWHERE!
THERE'S REED'S TELESCOPE... COMBING THE SKIES!
BUT... WHAT CAN HE BE AFTER?
WHAT GIVES, BROTHER-IN-LAW?
WHAT'S SUDDENLY MORE IMPORTANT THAN OUR SEARCH FOR BIG BEN?
NOTHING, JOHNNY! I AM SEARCHING FOR HIM!
BUT... YOUR TELESCOPE'S POINTED OUT INTO SPACE!
I KNOW--
I'M HOPING TO FIND SOME CLUE.. SOMEWHERE OUT THERE!
BUT WHY, REED? WHY THERE?
IT'S THE ONLY ANSWER, JOHNNY!
SOMEONE LIKE THE THING COULDN'T POSSIBLY VANISH SO COMPLETELY HERE ON EARTH!
BUT THERE... IN THE ENDLESS REACHES OF SPACE...
THINK, JOHNNY... THINK! HE WAS LAST SEEN WITH SOMEONE WHO THE DRIVER THOUGHT WAS ME!
IN ALL THE UNIVERSE... WHAT RACE HAS THE POWER TO CHANGE THEIR APPEARANCE AT WILL?
BEN IS OUT THERE, LAD... THE CAPTIVE OF... A SKRULL!
NEXT ISSUE: BEN GRIMM, MURDERER!

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AT THE STROKE OF MIDNIGHT!
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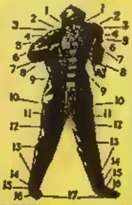

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Fantastic Four Fan Page

Send letters to LEE and KIRBY
THE MARVEL COMICS GROUP
SECOND FLOOR 625 MADISON AV.
NEW YORK 10022 N. Y

Dear Stan and Jack,

I have just read FF #87 and I have to congratulate you on a job well done. The ending of this latest ish had served to prove something I have believed in for quite some time; that is, that Marvel is without peer in the comic field.

Allow me to explain why this is true. When I picked up issue #20 of Marvel Super Heroes, I was a bit taken back by the featured superhero, none other than Doctor Doom. Doc, the scourge of humanity, on the cover of MSH! After I read "This Man, This Demon!" I was even more shocked. I actually felt pity for Doctor Doom.

Then, after reading FF #87, I was once again caught unaware. Doctor Doom allowed the FF to get away scot free! Suddenly, it dawned on me. I finally realized what it is that makes Marvel the greatest. It can be stated in two words—character development.

Everyone knows that Doc is the epitome of evil — arrogant, greedy, and power mad. Now we see him as a man tragically maimed by a terrible accident, tormented by the memories of things he can never have. A man cruel beyond belief, but at the same time, a man not without feelings.

My feelings about Doctor Doom have undergone a change. While he is still one of the most evil men on Earth, and the most excellent villain ever created, he is still a man beneath his grotesque exterior.

I will always cringe before the awesome entity of the man called Doom; but I will, at the same time, feel pity for him.

I think it is also a fine commentary on the current situation we are faced with as a country, and as a world. Hatred will never be overcome by hatred, only by understanding. You are to be commended for producing the finest group of magazines in the comic field. MARVEL FOREVER.

R.E. Plummer 79 East Isabel Street
St. Paul, Minn. 55107

Thanks, R.E.! Although we didn't originally plan for the recent F.F.–Doom series to hit the stands at the same time as the diabolical Doctor's solo shot in MSH, at least the two of them together seem to have made our point. Perhaps that's why our Latverian malcontent has won fan-awards of all types as "villain of the year"— virtually every year since he first menaced the F.F. 'way back in the dark ages of 1962! (That was in F.F. #5, for those of you with memories almost as bad as ours!)

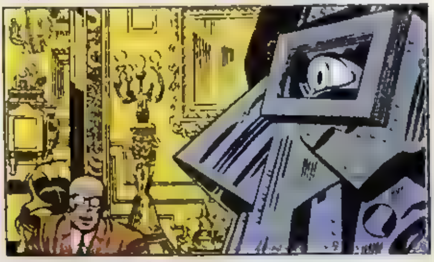
As for the future — you can bet that there'll be more developments in his life as he continues to appear at irregular intervals. Meanwhile, for those of you who still tend to identify Doc Doom with the time-twisting villain called Kang the Conqueror, be sure to pick up a copy of next month's AVENGERS — when the baddie who may be Dr. Doom (or may not) takes on a different super-group. End of plug.

Dear Stan and Jack,

While I have always been a bit skeptical of stories with "surprise endings", I am very much impressed by the FANTASTIC FOUR #86. By all means, let's see more of Sue Richards in action! With both Sue and Crystal lending the boys a hand, FF promises to be even more exciting in months to come. But, don't feel obligated to change the name of the mag to THE FANTASTIC FIVE simply because there is an extra member. No one should expect Sue to be a member on a full-time basis. After all, she still has that bouncing baby boy at home! Why not bring back some of the old standby villains, such as Diablo, the Mad Thinker, the Red Ghost, and Mole Man?

Bob Sennett 67 Hamilton Ave.
Auburn, New York 13021

Mole Man? Hmmm . . . now just where have we heard that name recently? Oh yeah . . . seems like it might have been within the very pages of the World's Greatest Comic Magazine. As for the Red Ghost and the Mad Thinker, you might just have noticed them popping up within the pages of IRON MAN and SUB-MARINER, respectively. (And frankly, we're kind'a hoping you did!) We've no positive plans for Diablo right now, but take a bow, Bob . . . after all, three out of four ain't bad!



Dear Stan and the Gang,

To me, the FANTASTIC FOUR is the best group you have (next to the Avengers), so why not make them the best? You can help the FF by, forgive me, changing their costumes. They have been wearing those rags for over six years, as far as I know. Give each a different uniform to equal their powers. While I'm on the subject of the FF, change their name to the Fantastic Five by adding Crystal. I would appreciate it if you would take up some of these suggestions, after all, I have been reading your mags for six years.

Steve Puckett 1776 Danesta Drive
Concord, California 94520

But where were you before 1963, pal?

On the matter of changing the F.F.'s name (if not the group's initials), we'll let you battle it out verbally with Bob Sennett, whose letter appears elsewhere in this section.

However, on the little matter of costumes, we'd like to state that — while we're kind'a prejudiced in favor of them as they are after lo, these many issues — we might consider the possibility of a change into more individualistic garb, if the rank and file of Marveldom demand it. But, we're not taking sides — not just yet! After all, we still remember how many enraged letters we received when we did the same thing for the extraordinary X-Men a couple of years back — and also how the costume change seemed to help revitalize the mag.

In other words, if you think we're hedging our bets and waiting for The Word to filter in from the four corners of the world — you're dead right, Steve!

KNOW YE THESE, THE HALLOWED RANKS OF MARVELDOM:

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F.F.F. (Fearless Front-Facer) — An honorary title bestowed for devotion to Marvel above and beyond the call of duty.

Dear Stan and Jack,

The second chapter in this lates Doctor Doom versus the Fantastic Four has become the best series to appear in the FANTASTIC FOUR in a long time. Jack's artwork has become more detailed once again, far superior to some of those entries which occurred just before the Four again encountered Doom. The plot, this time around, is far superior to what has been appearing lately. Perhaps the change of locale is part of the reason. It adds believability to the tale. And, the full panel shots located in this issue were not unwarranted as some full page spreads have been of recent times. Doom's electronic headquarters and the village itself are slightly reminiscent of Patrick Mc Goohan's series, what with the viewing screens and command chair in the strategic position. Recent issues of the Four have failed to have the ingredients which this episode contained. Lately, readers haven't seen anything of Johnny, Reed and Ben sitting down at a quiet side-walk cafe to discuss the problems at hand.

When was the last time we had any quick change to another member of the Four, such as this issue held when the story at last gave us a glimpse of Sue? And, it has certainly been a long spell since the Fantastic Four have contained any of the human elements which made them so famous to begin with: such as this current search for a house by Sue. Also, the changing in attitudes of Doc Doom from the character when he was first established way back in issue #5 helped to add realism. The fact that the Doctor can now gaze into a mirror at his mangled visage is a minor change, but still some progression.

At last, the Fantastic Four seem to be back on a comeback trail. If the succeeding chapters in this current battle with Doom are as well contrived, it will mean that the FF are in top form once more.

Donald McGregor 43 Wildwood Ave.
Providence, R.I. 12907

All right, Don . . . the issues in question have hit the stands, and we're waiting for your verdict.

Meanwhile, let us state here and now that we agree with you that, from time to time, we've let the cataclysmic events which tend to befall the F.F. squeeze some of the heartwarming, human touches which made the mag what it is today — and we're going to be striving like crazy in the days ahead to keep a tight rein on our own forgetfulness. (And, as you can imagine, that isn't easy — when such a small and dedicated crew is turning out so many comics each moth and striving to make each and every one worth to bear the name "Marvel Comics Group"!)

But thanks for trying to keep us on course, friend. If anybody ever tells you that we don't appreciate our frantic fans — just do us a favor and call the little men in white jackets for 'em, okay?

Dear Stan and Jack,

If indeed you were losing your magical Marvel touch, FANTASTIC FOUR #87 is certain proof that you are regaining it. Once again, you are employing the odd twists only Marvel would dare — the misanthropic monarch of Latveria losing his chance to destroy his most hated foes because of his love for the beauty and culture of his art collection - the same cultural interests which were to be his weapon against the Fantastic Four. Indeed, Doom showed madness in the very thoughts which freed his foes; he placed a higher value on his art collection than on human life.

I was glad to see those exaggerations which we all know and love present again, such as Ben's tossing the steeple at Doom's guards. However, having him <u>blow</u> down the door to Doom's castle was a little <u>too</u> much! Better he should have tossed a chunk of the wall through it.

Nonetheless, FF #87 was a Marvel Masterwork, and despite your earlier claims, I think the second Marvel Age of Comics has just begun! 'Nuff said?

Mike Burton 1149 Greenwood Street
Bellefontain, Ohio 43311

Not quite, Mike. Can we play "True Confessions" again for a moment?

We agree wholeheartedly with the statement you made in your third paragraph — namely, that bashful Benjoy should <u>not</u> have been able to knock down a heavy, reinforced door with naught but lung power. The way we see, that kind of hyper-strength is the personal property of a competitor's character . . . and he can have it. But, 'twas just a momentary goof (or a case of Homer nodding, if you wish a more literary explanation), and we humbly beg the forgiveness of Marchers everywhere. We'll try not to let it happen again — and we'll be grateful to you for letting us know if and when it ever does! Okay?

Dear Stan,

I'm writing this letter to add my two cents to the Galactus controversy. There is no doubt that Galactus is dangerous. However, one cannot consider him to be as evil as some of your readers think.

It has been stated a thousand times that Galactus kills only for survival. Comparing Galactus to us would be like comparing us to a worm or any of the lower animals. Suppose you were starving and that the only thing around that was edible was a live chicken. So, you take your axe and . . . Well, do you consider yourself evil because you killed that chicken for food?

Galactus is neither good nor evil. The reason for this is that he has not developed a concept of right and wrong. On Earth, only humans can be considered good or evil. A tiger, for example, can be considered vicious, but not evil-even if it chews up a baby lamb for its supper. The reason for this is that the tiger has no concept of right and wrong. Humans are good or evil because we have developed concepts of right and wrong. The reason that we have these concepts is due to the fact that we live in cultural societies and have established mores and customs by which we live. Since Galactus is a lone being, and not a product of cultural society, he has not developed a concept of right and wrong.

Paul M. Kay 2709 Wood Road
Morristown, New Jersey

A point well made, Paul, and one that makes Galactus perhaps a bit less of an ogre than, say, Adolf Hitler. However, you've got to admit that it doesn't exactly make him any more pleasant to have around the interplanetary neighborhood! (And oh, those property values!)

Forgive for being a bit facetious in responding to your letter, Mr. K., but since we've just been slaving over a hot THOR letters page which also dealt with Galactus and some of the selfsame arguments which you bring up, we'll just refer you to that particular mag for the latest scuttlebutt on our galactic glutton. (And, if we happen to sell an extra mag or two in the process, we probably wouldn't mind that too much, either!)

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YOU BUILD A SHORTWAVE AND BROADCAST RADIO. 3-tube regenerative circuit. Uses 115V AC. CARBON MICROPHONE with AUDIO AMPLIFIER. RADIO TRANSMITTER for code or voice. RIPPLE TANK WAVE GENERATOR with variable frequency. Invaluable in the understanding of wave theory. CODE PRACTICE OSCILLATOR with manual, "Steps to a Ham License." All you need to pass the FCC Ham License Exam.

ATOMIC ENERGY LAB

ATOMIC CLOUD CHAMBER WITH PROJECTOR ILLUMINATOR. See the vapor trails of alpha and beta particles, and of cosmic rays. SPINTHARISCOPE. Shows exploding atoms. ELECTROSCOPE — metal housed with Scale and Magnifying Viewer. Measures background radiation and tests sample sources. SAFE RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS. Alpha Source in handy container and Uranium Ore. Full instructions and explanations open up the fascinating field of nuclear physics.

Cloud Chamber

STROBE LIGHT

A Neon Lamp that flashes at intervals you can synchronize with the speed of rotating or vibrating objects in order to "freeze" their motion to permit close study and checking frequencies and RPM. Flashes are timed by a variable frequency oscillator with a range of 30 to 600 cycles per second.

RADIO SERVICING TOOLS

Signal Tracer Trouble Shooting

SIGNAL TRACER. A valuable trouble shooting tool which permits you to "listen in" as you probe through a faulty circuit until you find the trouble spot. CONTINUITY TESTER. Pin-points open circuits and test voltages. The use of both probes fully described in accompanying manual, "Simplified Radio and TV Servicing."

SPECTROSCOPE

Analyze spectra of glowing gases. See and identify the Fraunhofer Lines. A quality instrument featuring an easy-to-read built-in scale and a powerful condensing system for a bright spectrum. Equipment includes Alcohol Burner and a 3 Watt Neon Spectral Lamp. Full instructions cover theory and use.

PHOTOELECTRIC RELAY

Crystal Photocell, Electronic Amplifier, Relay, large Condensing Lens in Cabinet Mount, features automatic on-or-off or holding circuit operation, Sensitivity Control, Plug-in Outlet for controlled circuit. Use for alarms, counters, etc. Operates on 115V AC. A basic unit for many exciting experiments.

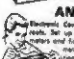
DC POWER SUPPLY

Changes regular 110-120V AC to the direct current required for electronic projects and experimenting. Consists of a Power Transformer, Vacuum Tube Rectifier, 30/30 MFD Capacitator Filter Circuit, and a potentiometer Voltage Selector. A Safe Isolated Power Supply eliminates the need of expensive multi-volt batteries.

ULTRAVIOLET LAMP

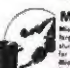
140 watt filter type UV LAMP. Heavy metal cabinet, 6 Foot Cord, Rotary Switch. Produces dazzling color effects with invisible black light. Has many uses in the fields of Mineralogy, Crime Detection and Science. Accessories include Invisible Ink, Tracer Powder, Fluorescent Crayons.

ANALOG COMPUTER



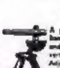
Electronic Computer multiplies, divides, calculates powers, roots. Set up the problem on the scales of two potentiometers and find the answer on the scale of third potentiometer as indicated by a sensitive meter. Instruction Manual covers computer theory and practical use. Over 150 sample problems and answers demonstrate use with fractions, trigonometry, logarithms, physics formulas, ballistics, etc.

MICROCRAFT LAB



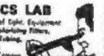
Microprojector shows microscopic subjects enlarged with brilliant detail on wall or screen. Has sturdy Steel Cabinet, large Condensing Lenses for extra brightness, and a GE Projection Lamp. Microscope features Ramsden Eye-piece for wide field viewing, Substage Light and Polarizing Filters. Magnifies up to 200X. Includes Slides, Cover Glasses and Microscopy Manual.

SURVEYOR'S TRANSIT



A practical Transit. 6X erect image telescope with Range Finder Reticle for measuring remote distances and heights. Vernier reading for both horizontal and vertical scales. Leveling Head with Thumb Screw Adjustment and Spirit Level. Clamps under head hold wooden legs of Tripod. (Legs not included.) Instructions cover elementary surveying, range-finding.

LIGHT AND OPTICS LAB



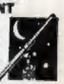
Exciting optical projects for the study of light. Equipment includes: five Precision Lenses, Prism, Polarizing Filters, Diffraction Grating, Mirror, Telescoping Tubing, Lens Mounts, Tube Holders and Brackets. All the parts and instructions to build a Camera Obscura, Camera Lucida, Polariscope, and many other optical devices.

Measuring Wavelength of Light

PHOTOMICROGRAPHY CAMERA

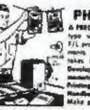
Photographs subjects mounted on microscopic slides. Enlarges up to 100X. Takes clear, sharp pictures of specimens too small to be seen with the naked eye. A fully self-contained unit — no microscope required. Uses standard roll film, either 120 or 620, black and white or color. Make a photographic record of your projects with microscopic subjects.

TELESCOPE AND MOUNT



30X erect image. Extends to 30" length. Five ground and polished Lenses, Ramsden Eyepiece. Sturdy Equatorial Mount makes it easy to follow the movement of heavenly bodies. Mount has fittings for wooden legs that complete the tripod (legs are regular 1x2 lumber not included).

PHOTOGRAPHY LAB



A PRECISION 35MM ENLARGER . . . horizontal type with twin condensing lenses and 3" F/L projection lens. Produces quality enlargements up to 8"x10". Contact Print Frame takes negatives up 3¼"x4¼". 3 Plastic Developing Trays, Neon Safelight, Tray Thermometer, Film Clips, Developing Chemicals, Printing and Enlarging Paper and Darkroom Handbook. Make quality enlargements for 6¢. Make prints for only 2¢. Full instructions.

LIGHT TRANSMITTER-RECEIVER

The TRANSMITTER consists of a Light Source, a Modulating Reflector Diaphragm and an Optical Projection System. The RECEIVER is a Two-Stage Audio Amplifier, controlled by a Photo-electric Cell that catches the projected light beam and covers the original sound waves to be reproduced in the headphones.

Talking on a Light Beam

WEATHER STATION

A REMOTE READING ANEMOMETER AND WIND-VANE . . . Flashing Neon Lights on indoor indicator board show wind speed and direction. Safety Power Cord makes all connections safe. 100 ft. of Lead-in Wire. Plus—Air Tank Barometer with dft. indicator column. Sling psychrometer measures relative humidity. Rain Gauge measures rainfall to 1/100 inch. ALSO Cloud Chart, Weather Map and Forecasting Manual—a complete set-up for amateur meteorology.

You get *ALL* the equipment for *ALL* the above in nine monthly kits

SEND ONLY **$1.00** TO ENROLL

PAY ONLY **$4.95** FOR EACH KIT THAT YOU RECEIVE

Take as few as you wish--or get all nine . . . it's up to you!

SOME QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Q. How is it possible? It seems incredible to be able to get all the equipment shown above in just nine kits—at only $4.95 per kit!

A. The direct-to-you "no middleman" club plan is just part of the answer. The other key is ABSClub's especially designed multi-use equipment. For example: the Microprojector quickly and easily converts into the Spectroscope, Photo Enlarger and Cloud Chamber Illuminator. Similarly, the Transit doubles as a Telescope Mount. Such multi-purpose design . . . plus club plan economy . . . makes possible this all-science program at a price everyone can afford.

Q. May members choose the order in which they receive their kits?

A. Yes. With the first kit members receive a list of the equipment and projects contained in each of the remaining eight kits. With this information they are able to choose the kit sequence that best suits their particular interest.

Q. Can members get their kits all at once instead of one-a-month?

A. Yes. At any time members can have the balance of their kits sent in one shipment. We recommend that you start on the kit-a-month plan because the monthly spacing will give you time to get the full measure of knowledge and enjoyment that each kit has to offer.

MAKE SCIENCE YOUR HOBBY!

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY — IT'S FUN! IT'S EASY!

NO OBLIGATION—NO RISK!

★ **You take only as many kits as you wish. No minimum—you may cancel anytime.**

★ **Two weeks approval on each kit you take. You may return any kit for full refund.**

Send coupon today—get your first kit on its way!

TRIAL MEMBERSHIP COUPON

I wish to try the Kit-a-Month Program:

☐ I enclose $1.00 to enroll and $4.95 for the first kit postpaid.

☐ I enclose $1.00 to enroll. Send first kit COD. I'll pay COD fee.

I understand if I am not satisfied with the first kit I may return it for a complete refund including the $1.00 membership fee.

NAME ______________________

ADDRESS ______________________

CITY AND STATE (PLEASE PRINT) ZIP CODE

AMERICAN BASIC SCIENCE CLUB, INC.

104 Hermann, San Antonio, Texas 78205

IF YOU NEED EXTRA MONEY

& YOU KNOW JUST 10 PEOPLE..

YOU CAN MAKE $50.00, $100.00, $200.00 AND MORE IN YOUR SPARE TIME—*It costs you nothing to try!*

Everyone You Know Needs Christmas Cards ...and Everyone Loves Wallace Brown Cards.

Do you know 10 people? Of course you do! Add up several neighbors, some relatives, the grocer, the milkman, your dentist, a few friends—and you've got a lot more. So what are you waiting for? These folks alone can bring you in at least $50, probably $100 and more extra money in just a few hours spare time. And this is just a start. Most everyone uses Christmas and All Occasion Cards and when you show them the thrilling new Wallace Brown line of Greeting Cards and Gift items—it's love at first sight. They'll snap up 2, 3, 6 or more Box Assortments and other things, too! This is the fun way of making money because it's so easy.

Mail Coupon Below TODAY! Get Free Giant Catalog, Too!

We'll send you everything you need to start making money at once. So hurry! Mail business reply coupon below TODAY! It needs no postage! You'll get 2 fast-selling Greeting Card Assortments on approval plus FREE Album of Personalized Christmas Cards and our big, colorful 80-page Catalog FREE—packed full of lots of money makers—greeting cards, gift wraps, imported novelties and gifts, household items, decorated stationery, etc. Mail coupon this minute—you'll be glad you did!

GET THESE 2 ASSORTMENTS ON APPROVAL

Crystal Fantasy 20 Fabulous New Sparkling Christmas Cards—Exquisite!

Rose Remembrance 16 Radiantly Beautiful All Occasion Cards

FREE Album of Popular-Priced Personalized Christmas Cards

Last year some folks made only $25 to $50 while others made $150-$250-$500 and more selling our entire line of greeting cards. Many church groups, organizations, schools, lodges, etc. do this year after year.

CUT OUT ENTIRE BUSINESS REPLY ENVELOPE BELOW
FILL IN COUPON-ENVELOPE, FOLD OVER FIRMLY, SEAL (PASTE OR TAPE) AND MAIL TODAY
No Stamp Necessary

Cut along Dotted Line

THIS ENTIRE FOLD-OVER COUPON FORMS A NO-POSTAGE-REQUIRED BUSINESS REPLY ENVELOPE

WALLACE BROWN, Dept. WBV-502
10 Martine Avenue
White Plains, New York 10606

YES, RUSH MY CHRISTMAS SAMPLE KIT

I want to make EXTRA MONEY with the Wallace Brown Greeting Card line. Rush the "Crystal Fantasy" and "Rose Remembrance" Assortments to me on approval, plus FREE album of Name-Imprinted Christmas Cards, FREE 80-Page color catalog of exciting gifts and details of simple money-making plan.

Fill in your name and address below—No stamp necessary

Name ____________ (print clearly) Apt. No. ____

Address ____________

City ________ State ________ Zip Code ________

If writing for an organization, give its name here ____________

DO NOT CUT HERE ↓ JUST FOLD OVER, SEAL AND MAIL THIS ENVELOPE—NO STAMP NECESSARY

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PERMIT NO. 589
WHITE PLAINS, N.Y.

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IF MAILED IN U.S.A.

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10 Martine Avenue
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Dept. WBV-502